

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Activities in the Area of the 6th Gds Mecz Div, the 10th Gds
Tank Div, and the 25th Tank Div.

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 23 August 1955

REFERENCES

PAGES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Between 20 and 29 July 1955, the following military shipments were observed in Templin:
 - 20 July. At 1945, a troop train with 9 T-34/85 tanks, 4 JS-1 tanks, and 4 trucks which approached Templin from the direction of Eberswalde.
 - 21 July. At 0710, a column of 25 trucks and 6 guns, which passed through Templin and proceeded toward Vogelsang.
 - 22 July. At 1330, a troop train with 10 x 37-mm AA guns, 20 trucks, and 10 boxcars which passed through Templin en route from the direction of Eberswalde toward Vogelsang.
 - 29 July. At 0710, a troop train with 4 x 37-mm and 8 x 85-mm AA guns, 17 trucks and 5 boxcars, which passed through Templin en route from Eberswalde toward Vogelsang.
2. At 1000 on 3 August, a column of 25 trucks with 6 x 122-mm field howitzers and approximately 8 x 82-mm mortars was seen in Finow. The column came from the direction of Eberswalde and proceeded toward Finowfurth. ¹
3. From about 0910 to 1100 on 4 August, a shipment, which had arrived from Lychen (Templin), was unloaded at the Wildpark (Potsdam) railroad station. It consisted of 18 x 152-mm field howitzers, 2 M-31 and 2 M-13 rocket-launchers, 52 trucks, 1 sedan, 6 field kitchens, 3 repair shop trucks, 1 ambulance, and 16 boxcars with personnel. ²
4. Between 21 July and 5 August, the Kavallerie Schule (2161) in Kramnitz was occupied to capacity. During this period, several units left the installation, but returned after a few days. ³
5. On several days, the following heavy weapons were observed in [redacted] ion: 12 T-54 tanks, 6 T-34/85 tanks, 6 SP guns similar to JSU-122s, [redacted] out guns, several radio trucks, 2-axle and 3-axle armored personnel carriers, and up to 20 driving school vehicles. [redacted]

6. On 23 July, an engineer column with 8 trucks carrying soldiers with full field

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equipment, 15 trucks with pontoons, 5 large DUKW-353 type amphibious vehicles, and 5 trucks with beams and boards left the installation toward Werder. The unit returned to the Kavallerie Schule at about 1730 on 26 July. ⁵

7. In the afternoon of 1 August, the following vehicles arrived in the installation from the Satzborn railroad station: 6 trucks with full-track chassis and benches for approximately 25 soldiers and 2 smaller but similar vehicles with benches for approximately 15 soldiers. The vehicles had no hull and an unusually high driver's cabin. They appeared to be factory-new. ⁶

8. In the afternoon of 5 August, 4 columns arrived at Kavallerie Schule from the direction of Marquard at intervals of about 20 minutes.
First column: 18 x 85-mm AA guns towed by trucks and other trucks occupied by troops.
Second column: 20 three-axle armored personnel carriers, each occupied by 6 to 8 soldiers.
Third column: 12 T-54 tanks with twin-barrelled AA guns.
Fourth column: 9 three-axle armored personnel carriers, each occupied by 6 to 8 soldiers. ⁷

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9. Between 19 July and 6 August, the barracks installation northwest of Berliner Strasse (4741) in Prenzlau was occupied as previously. Intensive training activity was observed in the [redacted] in the barracks yard had apparently discontinued. The tank [redacted] went to the tank training area on Sternhagener Weg. Approximately [redacted] soldiers, who wore red-bordered black epaulets, daily received instruction on 2 JS-2 and 2 T-34, 85 tanks and 1 JSU-122 gun in the southwest section of the installation. During the night of 29/30 July, 2 T-34 tanks from the installation northwest of Berliner Strasse were entrained at the Prenzlau freight station. The train left toward Templin.

Between 19 July and 6 August, the barracks installation southeast of Berliner Strasse (4742) in Prenzlau was occupied as previously. At about 0915 on 20 July, a column of 4 trucks towing 12 x 122-mm field howitzers, 3 trucks towing 57-mm AT guns, and 13 trucks with troops wearing full field equipment left for the new Kroechlendorf training grounds. The unit was to be relieved after about 2 weeks by another unit from the installation southeast of Berliner Strasse. The troops were quartered in tents. Some 1,000 soldiers were daily [redacted] at the old drill ground south of the installation. [redacted] Presently 3 [redacted] tanks daily left for the tank area on Sternhagener [redacted] and [redacted] joint exercises with driving school tanks from [redacted] installation northwest of Berliner Strasse.

11. Motor vehicles seen en route between the town and the barracks [redacted]

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1. Comment. Military [redacted] in Templin and Finow probably involved units of the 6th Gds Mecz Div. [redacted] en route between their posts and the Templin training grounds. The AAA shipment [redacted] which was observed on 28 July, presumably returned to Eberswalde or Bernau [redacted] the Wustrow AAA firing range. It cannot be determined whether the [redacted] involved a unit of the 63rd AAA Div. or the 120th AAA Regt of the [redacted] Mecz Div. The shipment on 29 July presumably belonged to the 63rd [redacted].

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2. Comment. The unloading at the Wildpark (Potsdam) railroad station involved units of the 10th Gds Tank Div. which returned to their post.

3. Comment. The short-term transfer of units of the 10th Gds Tank Div. was confirmed by railroad records.

4.

5. Comment. The engineer battalion of the 10th Gds Tank Div. probably conducted a 3-day exercise near Werder on the Havel River.

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6. Comment. The trucks on full-track chassis which arrived in the Kavallerie Schule from the Satzkorn railroad station on 2 August, presumably were to serve as prime movers for AT guns.

7. Comment. These [redacted] presumably returned from the Templin training grounds (unloading at the Satzkorn railroad station). [redacted] The fact that the AA [redacted] entered the Kavallerie Schule [redacted] is worth noting, since [redacted] A R [redacted] Kriegsschule (2288) [redacted] the conclusion that [redacted] it [redacted]

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